

Civil Air Patrol volunteer teaches moral leadership

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ACHIEVER Anglican priest named Kansas Wing Chaplain of the Year

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MICHELLE BURHENN



Who: Capt. Jon (Jack) I. Lumanog, chaplain of the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary Civil Air Patrol, New Century Composite Squadron

Achievement: 2005 Kansas Wing Chaplain of the Year for Civil Air Patrol

How he did it: Lumanog, an ordained Anglican priest, recently finished his first year as a volunteer chaplain for the squadron. As chaplain, Lumanog, 30, is responsible for the moral leadership for both the adult and cadet programs. He teaches a moral leadership class every month for the youth in the squadron's cadet program. Topics range from keeping promises to tolerating unethical behavior. He also is available for confidential counseling of people of all faiths.

What they say: Lt. Col. Dominick Italiano, squadron commander, nominated Lumanog because of his personality and dedication.

"He gets along well with people," Italiano said. "Everyone seems to like him right away. He gives a good presence wherever he goes."

Lumanog, of Prairie Village, said moral leadership was an important part of training an officer. Becoming an officer is more than just walking in step and learning commands.

"If they have no morals, forget it," he said.

But the volunteer work has not come easily for Lumanog, who had to go through training to become a captain. It was his first foray into military life.

"All this stuff has been an adjustment. As a priest we have a uniform, but it was black and it goes with everything," he said. "The first time I put on the uniform, I felt like I

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was impersonating an officer. But I've grown into it."

What's next: Italiano said Lumanog will continue training and learn about emergency services and search and rescue missions. Often times it is when officers return from those missions that they need the most counseling.

Lumanog said he will continue to serve in the volunteer capacity but also hopes to minister to a congregation again soon. He now works as advertising director at the National Catholic Reporter in Kansas City.

The last word: "I just wanted to seem competent and be a blessing to other people around me, so this was a surprise," he said.

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